

Amazon Headquarters in Long Island City, Queens

After a yearlong competition, Amazon selected New York City over 236 other cities as the site of a new headquarters. Beginning in 2019, Long Island City will be the company's northeast home. Amazon will initially create 25,000 good-paying jobs over 10 years, with a plan to grow to 40,000 over 15 years. Read the City and State's MOU with Amazon [here](#).

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25,000 Jobs for New Yorkers, Room to Grow

- The average salary of new jobs at Amazon's NYC headquarters will be over **\$150,000 annually**.
- More than half of the jobs will be in engineering, but there will be a wide range of other jobs, too. These will include sales, accounting and other office jobs. The project will also create thousands of jobs in construction and building services.
- Amazon, the City and the State will each initially commit \$5M (\$15M total) in 2020 to launch new programs to train underrepresented segments of the workforce.
- A local nonprofit will open a 10,000 square-foot **onsite employment and training center** on the Amazon campus, to actively train and recruit in the LIC community.
- The City will expand its successful **JobsPlus program to Queensbridge Houses**, which assists with job searching and placement and provides financial incentives for employment. This \$10M expansion will train and place 1,500 Queensbridge residents in jobs over the next ten years.
- The City will launch a new Queens-focused program to **train NYCHA residents for careers in IT, cybersecurity, and web development**. This \$3-5 million commitment will serve 200-300 residents.

Economic Impact

- This is the largest single effort to attract new jobs in NYS history. It is projected to deliver over \$186 billion in economic impact to New York over the next 25 years, including over \$14B in tax returns to the State and over \$13.5B to the City.
- This represents a 9 to 1 return on the State and City's investments, which is the highest return on investment we've ever had for an economic development project.
- The increased tax revenue generated by Amazon's new headquarters will be used to upgrade infrastructure, improve transportation, invest in our schools, and deliver services to New Yorkers.
- The State will commit up to \$1.7B in Excelsior Tax Credits and capital grants, based on Amazon's delivery of job and investment commitments. Amazon will only receive incentives if/when they achieve their job and investment goals.
- The City is providing no discretionary subsidies.
- Under the City's preexisting as-of-right programs, Amazon is eligible for a partial property tax abatement through ICAP and an annual credit of \$3,000 for 12 years per eligible employee under REAP, a program available to all companies to encourage job growth outside of Manhattan.
- REAP benefits for Amazon's initial 25,000-job expansion are projected at \$897 million through 2038, and ICAP will abate approximately \$386 million in property taxes.

Location

- In 2019, Amazon will occupy up to 500,000 square feet at One Court Square, beginning its New York City expansion with at least 700 new jobs in 2019 and growing to nearly 3,000 in 2020.
- In 2020, following public approvals, Amazon will begin to construct its waterfront campus around Anable Basin on sites owned by Plaxall, a local family-owned industrial business, and the City. Plaxall will retain two sites, which will be included in the General Project Plan for either mixed-use or commercial use.

Infrastructure

- Amazon's arrival will mean enhancements and amenities for people living and working in LIC.
- The State will conduct a SEQRA environmental review to ensure that potential impacts, such as transportation or other infrastructure challenges, are identified and addressed.
- Amazon will donate space for a **new 600-seat school**.
- Amazon will build **3.5 acres of public waterfront open space** at Anable Basin, which will connect Gantry State Park and Hunters Point South Park to form a contiguous waterfront park.
- Amazon will build **260,000 square feet of onsite affordable light industrial space, 25,000 square feet for non-profit art uses**, and local retail and restaurants.
- The City will dedicate a portion of Amazon's property taxes through a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) to a new \$650M **Long Island City Infrastructure Fund**. The fund will be guided by ongoing input from a working group comprising community members, elected officials, businesses and other local stakeholders.
- These investments build upon a total of approximately **\$2.5 billion of planned City infrastructure investments in LIC**, including \$180 million in recently announced funding for sewers, schools, streets, and parks.
- The MTA is working to address transit issues, including through new signal systems that will **increase capacity on the 7 line**, a borough-wide bus network plan, and accessibility improvements to local subway stations.
- LIC has recently added more residential units than any other zip code in the country, and has 6,400 new units coming on line in the next few years.

Approvals Process

- ESD will undertake an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and General Project Plan (GPP) for the project. This is the process the City and State have historically used to advance significant joint development projects.
- The EIS and GPP process typically take 12-18 months and involve a series of public hearings and meetings:
 - A scoping hearing to ensure public participation in defining the scope of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
 - Three ESD Board meetings at which the public can comment on the record
 - An additional hearing on the GPP and DEIS, with opportunity for public comment
 - A City Planning Commission meeting where the Commission will consider the project and vote on a formal recommendation to the ESD Board.

Community Engagement

- ESD, in conjunction with EDC, will work with all local elected officials to establish a **Community Advisory Committee (CAC)**. The CAC will allow members of the community, ESD and Amazon to share information and troubleshoot project issues.
- The CAC will be composed on three Subcommittees for Workforce, Neighborhood Infrastructure, and the Project Plan. The Subcommittees will guide the development of a citywide education to career workforce strategy, advise the City and State on infrastructure priorities in the broader Long Island City neighborhood and advise on matters of design, phasing, open space, public components and other HQ2 project details.